



County of Los Angeles
CONTRACTOR HEARING BOARD

1100 N. Eastern Avenue • Los Angeles, California 90063

Member Departments:
Internal Services Department
Chief Executive Office
Department of Public Works

October 18, 2011

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

43 October 18, 2011

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

DEBARMENT OF SAEICO, INC. AND MR. SAM SOHO NOR
ALL DISTRICTS
(3-VOTES)

SUBJECT:

Adopt the proposed findings, decision, and recommendations of the Contractor Hearing Board to debar Saeico, Inc., and its former President, Mr. Sam Soho Nor, as an individual, from bidding on, being awarded, and/or performing work on any contracts for the County of Los Angeles for a period of five years, and eight years, respectively.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Adopt the proposed findings, decision, and recommendations of the Contractor Hearing Board to debar Saeico, Inc. from bidding on, being awarded, and/or performing work on any contracts for the County of Los Angeles for a period of five years from the date of your Board's approval.
2. Adopt the proposed findings, decision, and recommendations of the Contractor Hearing Board to debar Mr. Sam Soho Nor, the former President of Saeico, Inc., from bidding on, being awarded, and/or performing work on any contracts for the County of Los Angeles for a period of eight years from the date of your Board's approval.
3. Instruct the Executive Officer of the Board, to send notice to Saeico, Inc., and to Mr. Sam Soho Nor advising of the debarment action taken by your Board.

4. Instruct the Director of the Internal Services Department (ISD) to enter this determination to debar Saeico, Inc., and Mr. Sam Soho Nor into the County's Contract Database.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended debarment action against Saeico, Inc. (Saeico) and its former President, Mr. Sam Soho Nor, is to ensure the County of Los Angeles (County) contracts only with responsible contractors who comply with the terms and conditions of their County contracts, and with any relevant federal, State, and local laws.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions are consistent with the County's Vision, which supports shared values of integrity, professionalism, and accountability.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Contractor Non-Responsibility and Debarment Ordinance

The Contractor Non-Responsibility and Debarment Ordinance, County Code Chapter 2.202, provides the County with the authority to terminate contracts and debar contractors when the County finds, in its discretion, that the contractor has done any of the following:

- Violated a term of a contract with the County or a nonprofit corporation created by the County;
- Committed an act or omission which negatively reflects on the contractor's quality, fitness, or capacity to perform a contract with the County, any other public entity, or a nonprofit corporation created by the County, or engaged in a pattern or practice which negatively reflects on the same;
- Committed an act or omission which indicates a lack of business integrity or business honesty; and
- Made or submitted a false claim against the County or any other public entity.

In considering debarment, the County may consider the seriousness and extent of the contractor's acts, omissions, patterns, or practices and any relevant mitigating factors.

Contractor Hearing Board (CHB) Responsibilities

County Code Chapter 2.202, the Contractor Non-Responsibility and Debarment Ordinance, established the CHB to provide an independent review of the contracting department's recommendation to debar a contractor.

The regular membership of the CHB is comprised of the Chief Executive Office (CEO), the Internal Services Department (ISD) and the Department of Public Works (DPW). The representative from the CEO was not available to sit on the CHB for this matter, and DPW did not sit on the CHB due to a potential conflict of interest (i.e., the debarment action was brought forth by that Department). In addition, the CHB includes the departments of Health Services, Parks and Recreation, and Public Social Services as alternate member departments.

Alternate members that included a representative from Parks and Recreation and Public Social Services were selected and participated in this hearing. The representative of ISD was elected by the participating members to serve as the CHB chair.

Background

In May 2011, DPW requested ISD to convene the CHB to initiate debarment proceedings against Saeico, and its former President, Mr. Sam Soho Nor, as an individual, for:

- Submitting false and forged bid bonds in ten separate bid proposals for ten Public Works projects in January and February 2010.
- Committing an act or omission which negatively reflects on the contractor's quality, fitness, or capacity to perform a contract with the County, or engagement in a pattern or practice which negatively reflects on same; and
- Committing an act or offense which indicated a lack of business integrity or business honesty.

On June 6, 2011, DPW sent a certified letter to Mr. Nor, President of Saeico, providing notification of DPW's intent to initiate debarment actions against Saeico, and Mr. Nor, with a recommended debarment period of ten years.

The hearing was publicly noticed, scheduled, and conducted on July 13, 2011, in the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Room 372 (Attachment I).

Saeico and Mr. Nor were provided all notices of the proposed debarment action and hearings before the CHB hearing.

The proceedings were recorded and the transcripts are available upon request, as well as all documents entered into the record as exhibits during the hearing.

- Attachment II is a listing of the exhibits that were entered into the record.
- Attachment III is a listing of CHB members, DPW and Contractor's representatives, participating attorneys, and witnesses.
- Attachment IV is a copy of the certified letters sent to Saeico, and to Mr. Nor on September 8, 2011, with a copy of the CHB draft report (without attachment) of the decision and recommendations. The letter included their right to submit written objections to the CHB by September 15, which would be heard at a scheduled hearing on September 22, 2011.

SUMMARY OF PERTINENT FACTS, EVIDENCE AND ARGUMENT

County Counsel, representing DPW, presented witness testimony, and submitted correspondence, affidavits, and supporting documentation demonstrating that Mr. Nor signed ten fraudulent bid bonds that were submitted to the County, on behalf of Saeico, for ten DPW projects in January and February 2010.

Background

Pursuant to the California Public Contract Code¹ and standard County solicitation documents, including the notice inviting bids and the instructions to bidders, contractors are required to provide, among other required documents, a bid bond with their proposal in response to County Public Works projects.

Bid bonds ensure that the County receives the lowest bid amount. Even if the low bid contractor refuses to or otherwise does not enter into a contract with the County, bid bonds guarantee that the lowest bid price will be provided.

¹ California Public Contract Code § 20129, Bidder's security; Performance bond, "(a) All bids for construction work shall be presented under sealed cover and shall be accompanied by one of the following forms of bidder's security...(4) A bidder's bond executed by an admitted surety insurer, made payable to the county."

A fraudulent bid bond can result in a significant loss to the County should the low bidder default or be unable to complete the requirements of the contract.

In their ordinary course of business, DPW's contract administration staff receive and review bid documents. DPW's administrative review includes steps to: ensure that the contractor possesses a valid and appropriate construction license for the project; verify the authorized signatures on submitted documents; and inspect the bid bond for original signatures from the requesting party, the authorizing party, and the notary public.

Pertinent Facts and Evidence

In November 2009, Saeico, through its President, Mr. Nor, submitted bids for three projects advertised by DPW. All three bids were determined to be non-responsive and were rejected by DPW because Mr. Nor provided a non-executed liability insurance certificate, and not a bid bond, as required.

During a subsequent conversation with Mr. Nor, DPW staff advised him that the County requires a bid bond, not a certificate of insurance, for Public Works projects, and that his bids were rejected because he failed to meet this requirement. These facts demonstrate that Saeico, and its President, Mr. Nor, were fully aware of the bid bond requirements prior to January 2010.

In February 2010, DPW conducted a review of bid documents submitted by Saeico for a sewer line project on Humphrey Avenue that was solicited in January 2010. The DPW engineer conducting the review noted two questionable items during his review:

- The Engineer could not verify that Saeico possessed the appropriate contractor's license. However, Mr. Nor, as an individual, did possess a license; and
- The bid bond appeared to have Mr. Nor's original signature, but the authorizing party and notary public signature and stamp appeared to be a photocopy.

The DPW engineer then checked a separate bid bond submitted by Saeico on the same day, but for a different DPW project. The two bid bonds appeared to be identical in appearance except for minor details, such as the project name, that were changed.

DPW then contacted the bonding agency identified on the document, Western Surety Company, and spoke to the Attorney-in-Fact, William Syrkin, whose signature appears on the bond as authorizing official. Mr. Syrkin asked for, and was sent (via facsimile), the two bid bonds in question.

After reviewing the bid bonds provided by DPW, Mr. Syrkin responded, via email, that

the bonds in question were “completely forged, falsified, and altered bid bond forms.”

In his subsequent written declaration (admitted into evidence without objection), and also as he testified at the CHB hearing, Mr. Syrkin stated that:

- He was able to determine by looking at the bonds that they were originally issued to a long-term client, and were “clumsily re-copied and reissued as a bid bond to Saeico.”
- The bid bonds have a photocopy of his original signature without his knowledge or permission and without the knowledge and permission of Western Surety Company, and as such, the bonds were fraudulent and would not be honored.
- He never issued any bonds to Saeico, Inc. or to Sam Nor, and has never had any contact with Saeico or Mr. Nor.

Mr. Syrkin then contacted CNA, the parent company of Western Surety, and forwarded the information regarding the fraudulent bonds to their internal investigations unit, which typically works with the District Attorney on these matters.

DPW subsequently discovered eight other current DPW project solicitations where Saeico had submitted a bid that included a substantially similar bid bond that was signed by Mr. Nor, and purportedly issued by Western Surety Company with the photocopied signature of Mr. Syrkin as the authorizing official.

DPW presented a declaration from Mr. Scott Hartner, former investigator for CNA, headquartered in Chicago, Illinois. In his declaration, Mr. Hartner stated the following:

- His employer, CNA surety, requested that Mr. Hartner investigate the origin of the bid bonds that were forged and submitted to the County by Mr. Nor of Saeico.
- Mr. Hartner contacted Mr. Nor on February 11, 2010, and informed him that the bid bonds that he submitted to the County were fraudulent.
- Mr. Hartner stated that Mr. Nor told him that he (Nor) purchased the bid bonds from his agent, John Baello, and had paid Mr. Baello \$8,500 for the bonds, and had paid him in either cash or check.²

² Mr. Nor denied that he ever talked with the investigator on the occasion noted (see transcript, starting at p. 58, ln. 24 through p. 59, ln. 1), but contradicts this statement later in his testimony before the CHB indicating that he spoke to the investigator on his cellular telephone (see transcript, starting at p. 84, ln. 24 through p. 85, ln. 11).

- After talking with Mr. Nor, Mr. Hartner contacted Mr. Baello, who indicated that he was no longer an insurance agent, and had referred Mr. Nor to the Small Business Federal Bonding (SBFD) program for the bid bonds.
- After talking with Mr. Baello, Mr. Hartner contacted a representative at the SBFD and found that Saeico had submitted an application for bid bonding but had failed to complete the application process.³
- Mr. Hartner attempted to contact Mr. Nor again on February 12, 2010, to discuss his findings, but Mr. Nor was not available, so he spoke with Mr. Godwin Iwunze, of Saeico.
- Mr. Iwunze stated that Mr. Baello had not been their [Saeico's] agent for the bid bonds, and that the bonds were procured from John Miakele Insurance Agency (JMIA) for \$3,650. Mr. Iwunze further stated that he had been unable to contact Mr. Miakele since the purchase of the bid bonds, and had no intention of doing so in the future.
- Mr. Iwunze stated that he would fax [Mr. Hartner] all of the documents he had to prove his relationship with JMIA.
- Mr. Hartner never received any of the above-referenced documents nor could he verify Mr. Iwunze's claim that he obtained the bid bonds from JMIA.

Testimony of Mr. Godwin Iwunze, of Saeico

At the CHB hearing, Mr. Iwunze testified to the following:

- He and Mr. Nor formed Saeico, Inc. because Mr. Nor had a contractor's license, and he [Mr. Iwunze] was unable to obtain one. With the license, the company could bid on construction jobs and government contracts.
- Mr. Nor was the President, and Mr. Iwunze was the Secretary and Treasurer of Saeico, Inc.
- Mr. Nor is no longer with Saeico, and Mr. Iwunze is now the President.

³ Mr. Hartner obtained and provided copies of the incomplete application as an attachment to his declaration (admitted into evidence).

- The ten bid bonds in question were “doctored” to reflect Saeico as the recipient of the bonds by Mr. Baello and Mr. Nor, and that all three (Iwunze, Nor and Baello) took part in the fabrication and submission of the fraudulent bid bonds to the County.
- The original bid bond that was used to produce the fabricated copies for submitting to DPW was obtained from the Los Angeles County Housing Authority, as a sample, and then manipulated on a computer to change information and reflect Saeico as the bond recipient.⁴

Contractor’s Argument

Testimony of Mr. Sam Soho Nor

In pertinent part, Mr. Nor testified before the CHB that:

- He was not involved in the procurement of bid bonds.
- He could not obtain bid bonds because he has bad credit, and that Mr. Iwunze was responsible for that part of the business.
- He understood that Mr. Iwunze obtained the bonds through Mr. Baello.
- He signed the bid bonds, but was not aware that the bid bonds were fabricated.
- He did not inspect or review the signatures or information on the bonds prior to signing them.

Testimony of Mr. Godwin Iwunze

In pertinent part, Mr. Iwunze testified (in addition to the aforementioned testimony) that:

- Saeico should not be debarred because it did not have a contractor’s license to bid on DPW projects. Instead, since he had the license, the County should take action against Mr. Nor.
- If Saeico is debarred, then he requests that it be only for a period of three years, because he has “learned his lesson,” and would not do it again.

⁴ See transcripts, p. 129, ln. 13, through p. 132, ln. 3.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDED DECISION

The CHB members concluded that the following factors assisted them in reaching their recommendations for the debarment of Saeico, Inc., and its former President, Mr. Sam Soho Nor, as an individual, for a period of five years, and eight years, respectively:

- *The frequency of incidents and/or duration of the wrongdoing.*

Based on a preponderance of the evidence, the CHB found that there were ten separate incidents in which the Contractor and Mr. Nor knowingly and intentionally submitted fraudulent bid bonds for DPW project solicitations.

- *Whether and to what extent a contractor planned, initiated, or carried out the wrongdoing.*

Based on a preponderance of the evidence, the CHB concluded that the Contractor and Mr. Nor knowingly and intentionally submitted the fraudulent bid bonds to the County.

- *The actual or potential harm or impact that results or may result from the wrongdoing.*

As previously noted, bid bonds ensure that the County receives the lowest bid amount. The bid bond is a guarantee that the lowest bid price will be provided. A fraudulent bid bond may result in a significant loss to the County should the low bidder default or be unable to complete the requirements of the contract.

- *Whether a contractor has accepted responsibility for the wrongdoing, recognizes the seriousness of the misconduct that led to the cause for debarment, and has taken corrective action to cure the wrongdoing, including taking appropriate disciplinary actions against those responsible.*

Mr. Nor continued to maintain that he did not intentionally submit a false bid bonds, and that he signed them because he believed that they were valid.

However, the testimony of Mr. Iwunze, Secretary and Treasurer of Saeico, that he (Iwunze), Mr. Nor and Mr. Baello actually prepared the fraudulent bid bonds for submission to DPW, and with a written declaration from a CNA investigator indicating that Mr. Nor told him that he (Mr. Nor) purchased the bid bonds for \$8,500 from Mr. Baello, suggests that Mr. Nor knowingly and actively participated in the wrongdoing, but would not accept responsibility.

- *Whether a contractor has cooperated fully with the involved public entities during the investigation and any court or administrative action.*

The CHB found that once the investigation into the fraudulent bid bonds was initiated by the CNA Surety investigator, both Mr. Nor and Mr. Iwunze were uncooperative with the investigator in his efforts to determine the origin of the falsified bonds.

Neither individual provided any documentation to validate their claims. It wasn't until the CHB hearing, where Mr. Iwunze explained how the bonds were fabricated by Mr. Nor, Mr. Baello and himself, that it could be determined that no such documentation existed.

- *The positions held by the individuals involved in the wrongdoing.*

The CHB found that the wrongdoing was at the highest levels in this company. Mr. Nor was the President and CEO of Saeico, and Mr. Iwunze, who was the Secretary and Treasurer, is now the President.

Therefore, by unanimous vote, the CHB recommends to your Board that Saeico, and its former President, Mr. Nor, be debarred. By a separate majority vote, the CHB recommends a debarment period of five years for Saeico, and a period of eight years for Mr. Nor, on the basis that Saeico, through Mr. Iwunze, stated that it understood, and vowed not to repeat, its wrongdoing, while no such statement was offered by Mr. Nor. In the separate majority vote, one CHB member recommended a debarment period of five years for both Saeico and Mr. Nor.

In making these recommendations, the CHB considered the contractor's lack of business integrity and honesty in knowingly submitting fraudulent documents to participate in the County's contracting process, and the multiple acts which negatively reflect on the contractor's quality, fitness, or capacity to perform a contract with the County.

Contractors' Right to Object to the CHB Findings and Recommendations

On September 8, 2011, Saeico and Mr. Nor were sent (via certified mail) a letter, with a copy of the draft report with the proposed findings, decision, and recommendation of the CHB. As indicated in the letter, the draft report was provided for the contractor(s) to review, and to prepare and provide the County with any written objections to the proposed decision of the CHB for consideration.

Pursuant to County policy, and as indicated in the letter, any objections must have been made in writing and transmitted to the CHB (with a copy to the other parties) at least five (5) days before the scheduled hearing, which was scheduled for September 22, 2011. Further, the letter stated that if no written objections were received by the CHB within the aforementioned time frame, then the hearing would be cancelled, and the CHB would present its proposed decision and recommendation to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

Neither Saeico nor Mr. Nor submitted written objections to the draft report with the proposed findings, decision, and recommendation of the CHB.

IMPACT ON CURRENT PROJECTS

Not applicable.

CONCLUSION

Due to the foregoing, and to ensure that the County contracts only with responsible contractors who comply with all relevant laws, as well as the terms and conditions of their contracts, the CHB respectfully requests that your Board adopt the proposed findings, decision and recommendations relating to Saeico and Mr. Nor.

Respectfully submitted,



Joe Sandoval, General Manager
ISD Purchasing and Contract Services
Chair, Contractor Hearing Board

JS:js

Attachments (4)

c: William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer
Gail Farber, Director, Public Works
Tom Tindall, Director, Internal Services
Andrea Ordin, County Counsel
Sam Soho Nor
Godwin Iwunze, Saeico, Inc.

County of Los Angeles
CONTRACTOR HEARING BOARD

1100 NORTH EASTERN AVENUE, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90063



Joe Sandoval, Chair

Member Departments:
Chief Executive Office
Internal Services Department
Department of Public Works

Alternate Member Departments:
Department of Health Services
Department of Parks and Recreation
Department of Public Social Services

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

July 13, 2011, 1:30 p.m.
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Room 372
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

AGENDA

- I. Designation of Chair and Call to Order
- II. Debarment Proceeding against Saeico, Inc, and Sam Soho Nor individually as initiated by the County of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works
- III. Consideration of other items not on the posted Agenda
- IV. Public Comment
- V. Adjournment

For additional information, contact Yolanda Young, Internal Services Department at (323) 267-3101 or by email at yyoung@isd.lacounty.gov.

LISTING OF EXHIBITS

Binder 1 of 2

NO.	DISCRIPTION
1	Notice of Debarment Hearing
2	Declaration of William Sykin
3	Declaration of Scott Hartner
4	California Public Contact Code 20129
5	California Penal Code 115
6	California Penal Code 470
7	Instructions to Bidders
8	Bid Proposal for Hacienda Boulevard
9	Bid Proposal for Colorado Boulevard
10	Bid Proposal for Covina Hills Road
11	Bid Proposal for Turnbull Canyon Road
12	Bid Proposal for Willow Street
13	Bid Proposal for Humphrey Avenue
14	Bid Proposal for Huntington Drive
15	Bid Proposal for 25th Street East
16	Bid Proposal for Encinal Canyon Road
17	Bid Proposal for Whites Canyon Road

Binder 2 of 2

NO.	LOCATION	PROJECT ID NO.	DISCRIPTION
1	Hacienda Boulevard	RCD0013935	Notice Inviting Bids & Special Provisions
2	Colorado Boulevard	RCD0011456	Notice Inviting Bids & Special Provisions
3	Covina Hills Road	RDC0015035	Notice Inviting Bids & Special Provisions
4	Turnbull Canyon Road	RDC0014386	Notice Inviting Bids & Special Provisions
5	Willow Street	RDC0012442	Notice Inviting Bids & Special Provisions
6	Huntington Drive and 2nd Avenue	RDC0011732	Notice Inviting Bids & Special Provisions
7	Accumulative Capitol Outlay 116 Humphrey Avenue	SMDACO0116	Notice Inviting Bids & Special Provisions
8	25th Street East	RDC0011116	Notice Inviting Bids & Special Provisions
9	Encinal Canyon Road	RDC0015253	Notice Inviting Bids & Special Provisions
10	Whites Canyon Road	RDC0015168	Notice Inviting Bids & Special Provisions

**PARTICIPANTS IN THE CONTRACTOR HEARING BOARD DEBARMENT PROCEEDINGS FOR
SAEICO, INC. AND MR. SAM SOHO NOR
JULY 13, 2011
1:30 P.M.
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 372
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012**

CONTRACTOR HEARING BOARD

JOE SANDOVAL, CHAIR, GENERAL MANAGER, INTERNAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
ROBERT A. MAYCUMBER, ADMINISTRATIVE DEPUTY, DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
NORMA DOCTOR SPARKS, ADMINISTRATIVE DEPUTY, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL
SERVICES

SAEICO, INC.

SAM SOHO NOR
GODWIN O. IWUNZE

OFFICE OF COUNTY COUNSEL

RICHARD D. BLOOM, LEGAL ADVISOR TO THE CHB, PRINCIPAL DEPUTY COUNTY COUNSEL,
CAROLE B. SUZUKI, LEGAL ADVISOR TO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, DEPUTY COUNTY
COUNSEL

WITNESSES

KHADLED ALQAM, SENIOR CIVIL ENGINEER, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
RUBEN AMEZCUA, OFFICE OF ENGINEERING SECTION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
WILLIAM SYRKIN, MILLENNIUM CORPORATE SOLUTIONS

ALSO PRESENT

YOLANDA YOUNG, DIVISION MANAGER, INTERNAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
WILLIAM WINTER, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
KEN SWANSON, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, CONSTRUCTION DIVISION
AMANDA DRUKKER, SENIOR DEPUTY COUNTY COUNSEL, OFFICE OF COUNTY COUNSEL



County of Los Angeles CONTRACTOR HEARING BOARD

1100 N. Eastern Avenue • Los Angeles, California 90063

ATTACHMENT IV
(Without Attachment)

*Member Departments:
Internal Services Department
Chief Executive Office
Department of Public Works*

September 8, 2011

Mr. Sam Soho Nor
7401 S. Crenshaw #112
Los Angeles, CA 90043

**SENT VIA EMAIL
AND CERTIFIED MAIL**

Dear Mr. Nor:

DEBARMENT OF SAEICO, INC. AND MR. SAM SOHO NOR

Enclosed is a draft report with the proposed findings, decision, and recommendation of the Contractor Hearing Board (CHB) to debar Saeico, Inc., and you, as its former President, from bidding on, being awarded, and/or performing work on any contracts for the County of Los Angeles for a period of five years, and eight years, respectively.

Pursuant to County policy, this draft report is being provided for your review, and for you to prepare and provide the County with any written objections to the proposed decision of the CHB for consideration.

Any objections that you may have must be made in writing and transmitted to the CHB (with a copy to the other parties) no later than 5:00 p.m. on September 15, 2011. If no written objections are received by the CHB by the aforementioned time frame, the hearing will be cancelled.

Any written objection(s) must be based on and specify the portion(s) of the proposed decision and recommendation and the basis for the objection(s). No new evidence or issues will be considered.

After conducting the hearing or if the parties waive the right to a hearing on the proposed decision (i.e., no written objections are received by the date and time above), and after consideration of the written objections, the CHB may modify, correct or otherwise amend the proposed decision and recommendation as it deems appropriate.

Thereafter, the CHB shall present its proposed decision and recommendation to the County Board of Supervisors for approval. You will receive a copy of the final proposed decision and recommendation, as well as the date, time and place that it will be placed on the public agenda before the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Sam Soho Nor
September 8, 2011
Page 2

As previously referenced, you must submit written objections no later than 5:00 p.m. on September 15, 2011.

Your written objections must be sent to Yolanda Young, CHB facilitator, Carole B. Suzuki, Counsel representing the Department of Public Works, and Godwin Iwunze, representing Saieco, Inc., at the below listed addresses:

Yolanda Young, Division Manager
ISD Contracts Division
1100 N. Eastern Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90063

Carole B. Suzuki, Esq.
Deputy County Counsel
500 West Temple Street, 6th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012

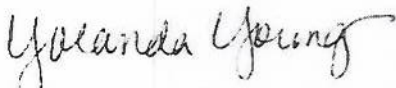
Godwin Iwunze
8414 8th Avenue
Inglewood, CA 90305

The CHB hearing to consider written objections is scheduled as follows:

September 22, 2011
9:00 AM
Kenneth Hahn, Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 372
Los Angeles, CA 90012

If you have any additional questions, please contact Ms. Young at (323) 267-3101.

Very truly yours,



for Joe Sandoval, General Manager
ISD Purchasing and Contracts Service
Chair, Contractor Hearing Board

Enclosures

c: Carole B. Suzuki, County Counsel
Ruben Amezcua, Public Works
Godwin Iwunze, Saeico, Inc.
Richard Bloom, Counsel to the CHB



County of Los Angeles
CONTRACTOR HEARING BOARD

1100 N. Eastern Avenue • Los Angeles, California 90063

ATTACHMENT IV
Without Attachment

Member Departments:
Internal Services Department
Chief Executive Office
Department of Public Works

September 8, 2011

Godwin Iwunze
Saieco, Inc.
8414 8th Avenue
Inglewood, CA 90305

**SENT VIA EMAIL
AND CERTIFIED MAIL**

Dear Mr. Iwunze:

DEBARMENT OF SAEICO, INC. AND MR. SAM SOHO NOR

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Godwin Iwunze
September 8, 2011
Page 2

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Yolanda Young, Division Manager
ISD Contracts Division
1100 N. Eastern Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90063

Carole B. Suzuki, Esq.
Deputy County Counsel
500 West Temple Street, 6th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012

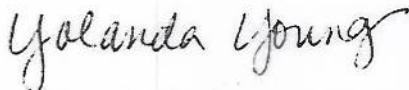
Sam Soho Nor
7401 S. Crenshaw #112
Los Angeles, CA 90043

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September 22, 2011
9:00 AM
Kenneth Hahn, Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 372
Los Angeles, CA 90012

If you have any additional questions, please contact Ms. Young at (323) 267-3101.

Very truly yours,



for Joe Sandoval, General Manager
ISD Purchasing and Contracts Service
Chair, Contractor Hearing Board

Enclosures

c: Carole B. Suzuki, County Counsel
Ruben Amezcua, Public Works
Godwin Iwunze, Saeico, Inc.
Richard Bloom, Counsel to the CHB



County of Los Angeles CONTRACTOR HEARING BOARD

1100 N. Eastern Avenue • Los Angeles, California 90063

ATTACHMENT IV
(Without Attachment)

*Member Departments:
Internal Services Department
Chief Executive Office
Department of Public Works*

September 8, 2011

Mr. Sam Soho Nor
7401 S. Crenshaw #112
Los Angeles, CA 90043

**SENT VIA EMAIL
AND CERTIFIED MAIL**

Dear Mr. Nor:

DEBARMENT OF SAEICO, INC. AND MR. SAM SOHO NOR

Enclosed is a draft report with the proposed findings, decision, and recommendation of the Contractor Hearing Board (CHB) to debar Saeico, Inc., and you, as its former President, from bidding on, being awarded, and/or performing work on any contracts for the County of Los Angeles for a period of five years, and eight years, respectively.

Pursuant to County policy, this draft report is being provided for your review, and for you to prepare and provide the County with any written objections to the proposed decision of the CHB for consideration.

Any objections that you may have must be made in writing and transmitted to the CHB (with a copy to the other parties) no later than 5:00 p.m. on September 15, 2011. If no written objections are received by the CHB by the aforementioned time frame, the hearing will be cancelled.

Any written objection(s) must be based on and specify the portion(s) of the proposed decision and recommendation and the basis for the objection(s). No new evidence or issues will be considered.

After conducting the hearing or if the parties waive the right to a hearing on the proposed decision (i.e., no written objections are received by the date and time above), and after consideration of the written objections, the CHB may modify, correct or otherwise amend the proposed decision and recommendation as it deems appropriate.

Thereafter, the CHB shall present its proposed decision and recommendation to the County Board of Supervisors for approval. You will receive a copy of the final proposed decision and recommendation, as well as the date, time and place that it will be placed on the public agenda before the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Sam Soho Nor
September 8, 2011
Page 2

As previously referenced, you must submit written objections no later than 5:00 p.m. on September 15, 2011.

Your written objections must be sent to Yolanda Young, CHB facilitator, Carole B. Suzuki, Counsel representing the Department of Public Works, and Godwin Iwunze, representing Saieco, Inc., at the below listed addresses:

Yolanda Young, Division Manager
ISD Contracts Division
1100 N. Eastern Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90063

Carole B. Suzuki, Esq.
Deputy County Counsel
500 West Temple Street, 6th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Godwin Iwunze
8414 8th Avenue
Inglewood, CA 90305

The CHB hearing to consider written objections is scheduled as follows:

September 22, 2011
9:00 AM
Kenneth Hahn, Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 372
Los Angeles, CA 90012

If you have any additional questions, please contact Ms. Young at (323) 267-3101.

Very truly yours,



for Joe Sandoval, General Manager
ISD Purchasing and Contracts Service
Chair, Contractor Hearing Board

Enclosures

c: Carole B. Suzuki, County Counsel
Ruben Amezcua, Public Works
Godwin Iwunze, Saeico, Inc.
Richard Bloom, Counsel to the CHB



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CONTRACTOR HEARING BOARD

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Member Departments:
Internal Services Department
Chief Executive Office
Department of Public Works

September 8, 2011

Godwin Iwunze
Saieco, Inc.
8414 8th Avenue
Inglewood, CA 90305

**SENT VIA EMAIL
AND CERTIFIED MAIL**

Dear Mr. Iwunze:

DEBARMENT OF SAEICO, INC. AND MR. SAM SOHO NOR

Enclosed is a draft report with the proposed findings, decision, and recommendation of the Contractor Hearing Board (CHB) to debar Saeico, Inc., and Sam Soho Nor, from bidding on, being awarded, and/or performing work on any contracts for the County of Los Angeles for a period of five years, and eight years, respectively.

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Godwin Iwunze
September 8, 2011
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Yolanda Young, Division Manager
ISD Contracts Division
1100 N. Eastern Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90063

Carole B. Suzuki, Esq.
Deputy County Counsel
500 West Temple Street, 6th Floor
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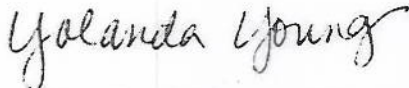
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Richard Bloom, Counsel to the CHB